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Indiana State Department of Health

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Vaccine E-Letter # 264 12/28/2007

www.statehealth.in.gov/programs/immunization.htm

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STATE FUNDED VACCINE

Clarification of article from Vaccine E-Letter 263:

- **State Funded vaccine is different than Vaccines for Children (VFC) and 317 vaccine. The VFC and 317 vaccine is federally funded through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).**

Due to the Governor's commitment to the immunization of Indiana's children, the Immunization Program has received additional State funding for vaccine purchase. The end result of this funding will be an increase in childhood immunization rates around the state.

Providers who meet the qualifications below may access this funding.

- You must be enrolled in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program.
- You must be enrolled in CHIRP and use the Inventory Management component of CHIRP.
- You will order state funded vaccine on a separate order form.

All State funded vaccine use must be recorded in CHIRP through the Inventory Management component (administered shot rather than historical shot).

State funded vaccine will be limited to children who meet ***all*** of the following requirements:

- 0–35 months old at time of vaccination
- Not eligible for VFC vaccine at the VFC provider facility.
- **Whose insurance does not have vaccine coverage or limited vaccine coverage**
- Receiving any of the following vaccine(s)
 - DTaP
 - DTaP – Hib

- Hep A Pediatric
- Hep B Preservative Free Pediatric
- Hep B – Hib
- Hib
- MMR
- Varicella
- Polio
- Prevnar
- Pediarix
- RotaTeq

To sign-up to receive state funded vaccine please send a letter via fax [(317) 233-8827] or e-mail [pelewis@isdh.in.gov] to Penny Lewis stating that you are 1) a current VFC provider (include your VFC PIN), 2) enrolled in CHIRP and 3) use CHIRP inventory management. Once approved, you will receive a separate order form for state funded vaccine.

Accurate Reporting of Vaccine Eligibility

Funding for vaccines and vaccines themselves are limited resources. As a result, it is crucial for providers to assess vaccine eligibility and to accurately report vaccine eligibility at each immunization visit. Accurate accounting of vaccine eligibility helps to ensure that vaccine resources are being allocated appropriately and that public vaccines are being made available to those who legitimately qualify through Vaccines for Children (VFC), PHS 317, or state funding.

The Immunization Program asks that you follow the outlined instructions carefully when assessing and accounting for vaccine eligibility in CHIRP. These steps were created to maximize availability of vaccines from all public funding sources and to justify funding received by the state for purchase of vaccines. Your assistance in accurately assessing and accounting for vaccine eligibility will help to justify and ensure ongoing vaccine funding.

Reporting Vaccines with State Funded Vaccine

The availability of State funded vaccine this year will provide all VFC providers with an additional eligibility option for vaccination of Indiana's children. This funding is to be used only for children who are 0-35 months old at the time of vaccination. Here are the new screening and eligibility requirements:

1. All VFC providers will first screen patients for VFC eligibility, as you routinely do now.
2. **For our Private Providers** – If the patient is NOT eligible for VFC vaccine, you may provide any vaccine listed in the article “State Funded Vaccine” outlined above. The limiting factor is that state vaccine may only be used for children who are 0-35 months old at time of vaccination.
3. **For our Public Providers** – If the patient is NOT eligible for VFC, you may provide any vaccine listed in the article “State Funded Vaccine” outlined above. The limiting factor is state vaccine may only be used for children who are 0-35 months old at time of vaccination.
**If the child is over 35 months old, Public Providers would then follow the State Policy Guidelines for use of PHS 317 funds.

Return of Recalled MERCK Hib Vaccine

Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers who received lots of Hib vaccine included in the recent MERCK recall will soon receive large white envelopes from “Stericycle.” The envelope contains return instructions and return labels for the recalled Hib vaccine. All recalled vaccine will be shipped to Stericycle in Indianapolis. Privately purchased vaccine can be returned along with the VFC vaccine, but the return forms must be completed appropriately.

VFC providers identified as having received lots of recalled vaccine will be contacted within the next week by an Immunization Program staff member to ensure that return procedures are in place and to answer any questions providers may have.

If a provider has recalled Hib vaccine on hand and has not received the envelope from Stericycle, the provider should contact Stericycle at (800) 643-0240. Additional information about the recall can be found on the CHIRP web site at <http://chirp.in.gov>

Reporting Recalled Hib Vaccine to the State Immunization Program

The Indiana State Immunization Program requests that VFC providers who have any of the recalled Hib vaccine, separate the VFC vaccine from any private stock that you may also have and complete and return the attached Immunization Program’s Return Vaccine Form (Provisional) for all recalled doses of Hib vaccine. Use return code #9 – Other, and in the space for an explanation write, “MERCK Haemophilus b Conjugate Vaccine Recall”. This form may also be obtained online at the Indiana Immunization Program’s Children and Hoosiers Immunization Registry Program (CHIRP) website <https://chirp.in.gov>.

Also, providers may submit an Immunization Vaccine Order Form requesting replacement doses. Please fax both forms to the State Immunization Program at (317) 233-3719.

Please also be aware that Hib vaccine supplies will likely be limited, at least for the short term. Providers should plan for the likelihood that requested types and number of doses may not be available.

Contact Us

For questions and comments, please contact the ISDH Immunization Program at: Immunize@ISDH.IN.gov or 800-701-0704.

We are not planning to send out an E-letter next week unless there is an urgent message we need to send out to you.